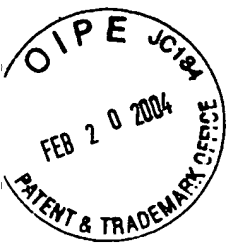


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Sturm et al. Examiner: Fristoe, John
Serial No.: 10/074,486 Group Art Unit: 3754
Filed: February 12, 2002 Docket No.: 13871.1US01
Title: FLUID DISPENSING AND STORAGE SYSTEM WITH A DRINK
VALVE

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 17, 2004.

By: Name: Charles A. JacobsonPETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

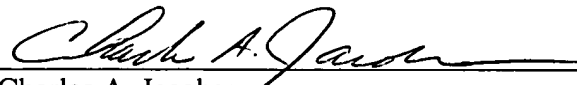
Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a 2-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed September 23, 2003, said period of response being extended from December 23, 2003 to February 23, 2004.

Our check in the amount of \$420.00 is enclosed to cover the required extension fee for a large entity.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300


Charles A. Jacobson
Reg. No. 53,061
CAJ/tt

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Date: FEBRUARY 17, 2004